

November 2019 PSCS Board Meeting Minutes

November 18, 2019, 6:00 PM, Asbury Building
PSCS, 9300 Bob Beatty Rd, Charlotte, NC 28269

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present

- Abigail Jennings, Erik Giles (phone), Peter Blumenfeld, Will Weaver, Jeanne Bryne

Board Members Absent

- Kim Champion, Barbara Ann Temple, Sandy Knox

Administration Present

- Becky Friend, Erin McDonald (phone), Randolph Lewis (phone)

Visitors

- None

CALL TO ORDER

Abigail Jennings established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

PREVIOUS MINUTES

There were no notable discussion or motions.

Will Weaver made a motion to approve previous meeting minutes.

Peter Blumenfeld seconded the motion.

Abigail called for any additional questions or comments; there were none.

Abigail called for a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Erik Giles reported the policies have been organized and are now online on the PSCS website. Erik thanked Anne Yampolsky for her help getting them on the website.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Abigail Jennings presented the October 2019 Financial Reports. An error was noted on the October Financial Summary Report. It was tabled for correction and will be revisited at the December meeting. Peter Blumenfeld made a motion to approve the October Balance Sheet. Jeanne Byrne seconded the motion.

Abigail called for any additional questions or comments; there were none.

Abigail called for a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

Abigail also reported that the State will not be passing their budget until January 2020, which means the final PSCS budget will continue to be delayed until the state budget has been passed.

MARKETING TASK FORCE

Abigail Jennings presented the new 2020-21 marketing cards promoting our K-9th grades and asked the board to share them in the community. In addition, Abigail recently met with a marketing specialist who offered new ideas to promote the school. One suggestion was to build a marketing plan on “three words you would use to describe Pioneer Springs.” Abigail asked the board to consider what those words would be and email suggestions. Peter Blumenfeld suggested this would be a great question to also ask staff and parents. Becky Friend said we could add this to an upcoming survey going out to the PSCS community.

DIRECTOR REPORTS

Advancement - Erin McDonald reported:

- Fairy Tale Ball was the best ever this year. A beautiful event with much community support.
- Reach for the Trees has raised \$55,000 so far, only \$11,000 more to reach the \$66,000 goal.
- Reach for the Trees launched a new PSCS gear product: The Pioneer Buff. Sales were very good for this new versatile product.
- Fall camps are underway.
- Info Sessions are underway.

Facilities - Randolph Lewis reported:

- E-rate funding received for new switches and access points, which were installed this week.
- Cellular and IP dialers for fire detection.
- Wrapping up custodian interviews
- Bi-annual fire inspection went well.
- Removed large willow oak on Croft campus due to safety issues. Wood is being kept on site for outdoor play.

Operations - Becky Friend reported:

The theme for the 2019-2020 school year is "Growing in the Garden, Cultivating Knowledge." Classes are being asked to put renewed focus on teaching and learning through gardening. School gardens teach more than science, math, and language arts. Students working in gardens gain responsibility, increase self-esteem, learn about nutrition, make personal connections with nature, and learn about marketing.

We've also added a cold frame greenhouse to our campus which enables our teachers and students to extend the growing season. Students will be able to start seeds earlier and raise plants longer during the school year. Potentially flower and vegetable plants can be raised and sold in the Spring.

We had six PSCS teachers accepted as presenters for the Community School of Davidson's Fresh Take Educator conference.

Pioneer Springs was the recipient of a matching grant from Technology in the Future which provided new devices for staff and classrooms.

We've invested \$10,000 into staff development this year through Title 1 Funds. These funds are being used through a math coach for 3rd-8th to enhance our individualized instruction through coaching teachers. In addition, funds are being used to enhance our ELA program, through providing Orton-Gillingham training to three teachers, which will give PSCS five trained Orton-Gillingham instructors. Professional development will also include MTSS training to specifically help students at both ends of the performance scale.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CLOSED SESSION

The board entered into Closed Session at 6:45 pm, upon a motion being made by Peter Blumenfeld, seconded by Will Weaver, and confirmed via roll call vote of all board members present pursuant to North Carolina General § 143-318.11(a)(1) to prevent the disclosure of information that is privileged or confidential pursuant to the law of this State or of the United States, or not considered a public record within the meaning of Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.

The board ended Closed Session and entered into Open Session at 7:14 pm upon a motion being made by Jeanne Bryne, seconded by Peter Blumenfeld and approved by all Board members present.

ADJOURNMENT

Abigail Jennings called for any further comment or discussion and hearing none requested a motion to adjourn. Peter Blumenfeld made the motion. Jeanne Byrne seconded. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm, without objection.

Respectfully submitted,



Abigail Jennings, Chairperson

